

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-14 remain pending in this application. No claims have been canceled or added.

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kuno et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,584,552). Claims 10-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Masuda et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,714,649). These rejections are traversed as follows.

The cited references simply fail to disclose the features contained in the claims. These features have been clarified by amendment, but Applicants maintain that the claims, before amendment, clearly distinguished over the prior art.

According to the present invention, contents are broadcast with a start command to a receiving side. Then, a play command is broadcast to the receiving side to cause the contents previously broadcast to be retrieved for output. This way, broadcasters can provide users with contents before hand and then have the contents played upon receiving a play command. This avoids the need for broadcasting contents each time certain contents are to be played. This is particularly applicable to a situation where contents are to be played numerous

times. Furthermore, the contents are played at a time determined by the broadcaster.

Kuno merely discloses that a receiver (ie. STB) or controller sends a record start command to a hard disk, but does not disclose that the STB receives and processes the start command included in the broadcasting signals. Furthermore, Kuno certainly does not disclose broadcasting a play command from the broadcaster in a second time period subsequent to the first time period after broadcasting the contents.

Masuda is directed to copyright protected art and moving contents from one device to another. Masuda is neither concerned with, nor discloses, that a start command is included in broadcasting signals, nor that a play command is broadcast from the broadcaster in a second time period subsequent to the first time period after broadcasting the contents.

Therefore, neither of these references disclose the presently claimed invention. As such, it is submitted that the pending claims patentably define the present invention over these references as well as the other cited art of record.

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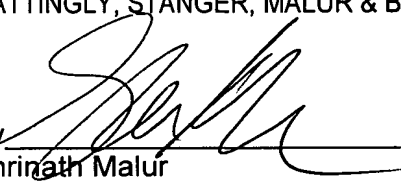
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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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